

City of Newton



Setti D. Warren  
Mayor

## December 21, 2010 AGENDA

### Mayor's Advisory Committee on Sustainable Newton

[www.ci.newton.ma.us/building/projects.htm#sustain](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/building/projects.htm#sustain)

Telephone (617) 796-1605  
C/o Public Buildings Department  
52 ELLIOT STREET  
NEWTON HIGHLANDS, MA 02461-1605

Members: Peter Smith (Chair), Brooke K. Lipsitt

#### Member Organizations

Green Decade Coalition/Newton, League of Women Voters, Newton Conservators,  
Newton-Needham Chamber of Commerce, Charles River Watershed Association  
Newton Eco-Team Project

#### Member City Committees

Energy Commission, Mayor's Advisory Committee on Renewable Resources,  
Recycling Committee

#### Member City Departments

Board of Aldermen, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Development, Public Works  
Public Schools, Public Buildings

### **The next meeting of Sustainable Newton will be held on:**

- **Tuesday morning, December 21, 2010 at 8:00 a.m.**
- **Room 202, second floor, Newton City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue**

#### CONFERENCING FOR MEETING:

Dial-In 1-218-862-1300 Bridge: 463394 (Long distance call to Minnesota)

### **Agenda: (and any other business properly brought to the Committee's meeting)**

#### **New Business**

##### **Food Services, Newton Public Schools**

Communication received from Rob Clickstein, Food Services Director offering to discuss food services sustainable opportunities as the school department transitions to a vendor-based delivery of same.

#### **Unfinished Business to be Discussed (11/10)**

##### **Green Decade School Outreach Committee**

Communication received from Bob Warren outlining their future possible action items:  
Food services issues, food purchasing, supply, waste, composting and overall waste reduction in the food services sector in the schools.

Film series, Public education on sustainability and food, "How Low Can You Go"

Bike policies in Newton and the schools specifically.

"Big Tent": social networking as a resource sharing site for green ideas in the schools.

#### **Plastic Water Bottles and Plastic Shopping Bags (06/10)**

[www.wickedlocal.com/newton/opinion/columnists/x1664760375/Leary-Give-plastic-bags-the-sack](http://www.wickedlocal.com/newton/opinion/columnists/x1664760375/Leary-Give-plastic-bags-the-sack)

(Guest column by Alison Leary)

[www.dailykos.com/story/2010/6/9/874543/-Bye-Bye-Plastic-Bags](http://www.dailykos.com/story/2010/6/9/874543/-Bye-Bye-Plastic-Bags)

[www.nytimes.com/gwire/2009/04/23/23greenwire-new-bottle-deposit-and-bag-tax-bills-touted-fo-10641.html](http://www.nytimes.com/gwire/2009/04/23/23greenwire-new-bottle-deposit-and-bag-tax-bills-touted-fo-10641.html)

#### **Status of David Del Porto's communications with Executive Department (05/10)**

Follow-up on meetings by Mayor Warren with Chairs of Energy and Solid Waste Commissions.

Agenda continued on page 2

## **Sustainability/Environmental Policies for City Departments**

Models for development of policies by departments and next steps.

## **MONTHLY UPDATE/REPORTS BY City committee's, departments, and represented NGO's**

- 1) [www.newtonecoteams.org/default.aspx](http://www.newtonecoteams.org/default.aspx) Newton Eco-Team Project
- 2) [www.ci.newton.ma.us/DPW/recycling/single%20stream/default30.htm](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/DPW/recycling/single%20stream/default30.htm) Public works
- 3) [www.lwvnewton.org](http://www.lwvnewton.org) Environmental Committee initiatives
- 4) [www.nnchamber.com](http://www.nnchamber.com) Energy and environment committee.
- 5) [www.greendecade.org/schooloutreach.html](http://www.greendecade.org/schooloutreach.html) GDC/N school outreach committee.
- 6) [www.greendecade.org/highperfbuild.html](http://www.greendecade.org/highperfbuild.html) High Performance Building Coalition
- 7) [www.ci.newton.ma.us/building/projects.htm#sunergy](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/building/projects.htm#sunergy) Renewable Resources Committee.
- 8) [www.ci.newton.ma.us/building/projects.htm#energycommission](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/building/projects.htm#energycommission) Energy Commission
- 9) [www.ci.newton.ma.us/DPW/recycling/default.asp](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/DPW/recycling/default.asp) Recycling Committee.
- 10) [www.ci.newton.ma.us](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us) City Departments: Aldermen, Parks, Planning, Buildings, Schools, Public Works.

## **November 16 Meeting Report** **Mayor's Advisory Committee on Sustainable Newton**

The regular monthly meeting of the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Sustainable Newton was held on Tuesday Morning, November 16, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 202, second floor, Newton City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Ave.

Attending: Sharyn Roberts, David Tannozzini and Kara Plunkett and three other Boston College Law Students.

- 1) September meeting notes reviewed and accepted as minutes.
- 2) Sharyn summarized the 10/26/10 LWV water forum including options to upgrade sewer pipes. This would reduce ground water infiltration into the pipes which increases MWRA charges. Infiltration was one reason several home basements were flooded this summer.
- 3) Safe sidewalks ordinance proposals are being discussed by the Board of Aldermen.
- 4) Sharyn provided an update on LWV initiatives including plastic bag pollution. There is resistance to requiring a deposit. The League is considering asking merchants to place informational posters on windows. An example would be a window sticker asking "did you buy your reusable bag today?"
- 5) Mass PIRG is advocating the bottle deposit be expanded to water and juice containers. It was noted these probably cause even more pollution than plastic bags.
- 6) Rob Clickstein, Food Services Director, Public Schools, attended the meeting. His wealth of information included information on styrofoam containers, compostable utensils and other sustainable issues facing food services. Rob noted the change to vendor based food services by the school department starting in 2011. Rob was asked if he could attend the December 21 meeting. David T. will notify Bob Warren of Green Decade's school outreach committee as he and/or other members may be interested in attending.

End of meeting notes

122110agenda

## **PLANNING RESOURCES (NOT PART OF AGENDA)**

### **Recommendations for Newton's Green Building Policies**

May, 2010 report: "This report represents the work of four WPI undergraduate students submitted to the faculty as evidence of completion of a degree requirement. WPI routinely publishes these reports on its web site without editorial or peer review."

### **Green Communities – Guidelines for Qualifying as a Green Community:**

([www.mass.gov/Eoeea/docs/doer/gca/FINAL%20GC%20Qual%20Criteria%2071009.pdf](http://www.mass.gov/Eoeea/docs/doer/gca/FINAL%20GC%20Qual%20Criteria%2071009.pdf))

**Sustainable Waste Management Collaborative** (SWMC) presentation by Architect Jay Walter. Recommendation is Mr. Walter contact Board of Alderman Public Facilities Committee Chair [Alderman Sydra Schnipper](#). Action: referred to [Solid Waste Commission](#). (02/09)

**David Del Porto's 12/23/08 letter to Mayor Cohen** Recycling in public buildings. (SN1208)

### **Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) (SN1108)**

Communication received from Kevin Dutt introducing Professor Kent Portney of the CAG. Per August meeting: Mike Kruse discussed his meeting with "Citizen Advisory Group" member Kent Portney. They discussed Sustainable City Practices. Mike apprised the committee of Professor Portney's bio and how he could be a valuable resource for the committee.

From [www.ci.newton.ma.us/CitizenAdvisoryGroup/Member%20Biographies.pdf](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us/CitizenAdvisoryGroup/Member%20Biographies.pdf) :

"**Kent Portney** – Kent Portney is a Professor of Political Science at Tufts University. He has written extensively and conducted research on issues of local sustainability policies and programs in cities across the United States. His book *Taking Sustainable Cities Seriously: Economic Development, the Environment, and Quality of Life in American Cities*, was published by MIT Press in 2003 ..... Mr. Portney has lived in Newton for 22 years."

[www.epa.gov/sustainability/](http://www.epa.gov/sustainability/), [www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/permitcenter/greencity/home\\_green.asp](http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/permitcenter/greencity/home_green.asp),

[www.sustainable.org/information/aboutsuscom.html](http://www.sustainable.org/information/aboutsuscom.html),

[www.smartcommunities.ncat.org/management/tensteps.shtml](http://www.smartcommunities.ncat.org/management/tensteps.shtml)

[www.esdtoolkit.org/resources/web\\_sd.htm](http://www.esdtoolkit.org/resources/web_sd.htm)

**Charles River Watershed Association ( [www.cwra.org](http://www.cwra.org) )**